

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicant would first like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the undersigned and to Dr. Donald Spencer, Applicant's representative, during a personal interview conducted at the U.S. Patent Office on September 14, 2005, during which the merits of the outstanding Final Rejection were discussed.

The specification has been amended to reference the patent that issued from application serial no. 651,754.

The preambles of claims 2-5 have been amended to use the same language as that used in independent claim 1.

The Examiner has objected to claims 6, 9 and 16 due to noted informalities. Applicant has amended these claims accordingly and therefore requests that the Examiner's rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner has again rejected claims 1-16 and 18-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Wolfe paper ("Wolfe"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed in the Remarks section of the Amendment filed on February 7, 2005 and as discussed during the above referenced interview, Wolfe describes a modular avionics system that is defined to include a number of "Line Replaceable Modules" (LRMs), or common modules, such as RF receivers and transmitters (each designed for operation over a particular narrow frequency range), signal processors, data processors and so forth. Figure 1 of Wolfe shows a generic integrated modular CNI

architecture that may be transferred to other "platforms," i.e., aircraft, by integrating a selection of the common modules to perform the desired functions on each new platform. The Examiner asserts that the multifunction slice of FIG. 1 of the present application reads on the architecture shown in FIG. 1 of Wolfe. However, as discussed during the interview, FIG. 1 of the present application is generally related to FIG. 2 of Wolfe.

As discussed in the previous Amendment filed on February 7, 2005, the radio of the present invention defines slices that are much more generic in function than the LRMs described in Wolfe. Thus, a slice is not simply a grouping of radio resources, as assumed by the Examiner, but is more in the nature of a generic building block that can be programmed to assume the role of a variety of radio functions (and as now more specifically recited in new claims 29-36).

Each multifunction slice contains a plurality of transceivers (configurable to perform transmit and receive operations over any of a wide band of frequencies), and a processor (configurable to perform all the functions necessary for controlling the transceivers, for performing pre-processing, signal processing and data processing within the slice and for effecting communication with other slices). The slice configuration differs significantly from that of the LRMs described in Wolfe. Specifically, as clearly shown in FIGs. 2 and 3 of Wolfe, each LRM has a specific function and is not identical to the other respective LRMs.

For example, the first listed module in FIG. 3 is an L-Band receiver with selectable bandwidths, while the third listed module is a UV-Band receiver. These

modules are clearly not identical to one another in either structure or operation and, with reference also to Wolfe FIG. 1, clearly do not each contain all of the components included in each slice. For example, the Wolfe architecture in FIG. 1 includes a single CNI signal processor and a COMSEC processor for all integrated components. Each slice in the present invention includes its own processor (such as 104 in FIG. 1), thereby enabling the multifunction radio of the present invention to perform all of the processing functions for a given radio function within a single slice.

In view of the above differences, and not necessarily in response to the Examiner's rejection, independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 have been amended in an effort to further distinguish the present invention more clearly over Wolfe.

Specifically, each of the independent claims has been amended to recite that the slices are identical and combinable. Such a feature clearly distinguishes the radio system of the present invention over that of Wolfe. As shown in FIGs. 2 and 3 of Wolfe, the LRMs are clearly not identical (L Band Receiver, PHP GPS RSP, PS, etc.) and therefore, as discussed above, are not analogous to the generic building block slices used to implement the radio system as discussed in the present application.

In summary, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of anticipation, as Wolfe does not teach all elements recited in amended independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner's rejection of these claims, as well as of all claims dependent thereon, be withdrawn.

The Examiner should note that new dependent claims 29-32, which respectively depend from independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16, generally recite that each of the

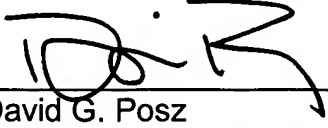
plurality of multifunction radio slices is capable of performing any of a plurality of radio functions. In addition, new dependent claims 33-36, which also respectively depend from independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16, generally recite that the transceivers in each slice are identical as well. These new claims, which are supported by the specification and drawings (See, e.g., FIGs. 1 and 2, page 9, lines 2-19 and page 30, lines 17-22), further distinguish the presently claimed invention from Wolfe by reciting additional details as to the generic nature of the recited radio slices, and particularly that the slices are capable of performing any of a desired set of radio functions, and that the transceivers are identical. As the art of record neither teaches nor suggests such features, these claims are allowable as well.

All outstanding objections and rejections being addressed, Applicant asserts that the present application is now in condition for allowance. A prompt Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that any outstanding issues still exist, he is invited to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

Please charge any unforeseen fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Date: September 22, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

  
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